

What is claimed is:

1. A system for providing help information supporting user operation of at least one executable application, comprising:
  - an interface processor for receiving:
    - user entered data representing a help message conveying help information,
    - a creation time indicator identifying a creation time of said message; and
    - an identifier for identifying a help information repository associated with said message; and
    - a data processor for storing said message conveying help information in said help information repository in order of creation by using said creation time indicator.
2. The system according to claim 1, wherein
  - said interface processor comprises a search operation, said search operation allows a user to search any help information repository.
3. The system according to claim 1, wherein
  - said data processor deletes said message.
4. A system according to claim 1, wherein
  - said creation time indicator includes a creation date indicator and said data processor stores said message conveying help information in said help information repository in order of creation by using said creation time and date indicator.

5. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said interface processor receives said help message in response to user entry of said data representing said help message using a help window generated in response to user selection of a help icon presented in a displayed user interface image employed by said executable application and

said help information repository comprises records of help messages associated with at least one of: (a) said displayed user interface image and (b) an image element in said displayed user interface image.

6. A system according to claim 3, wherein

individual displayed user interface images employed by said executable application are associated with corresponding individual information repositories comprising records of help messages concerning a corresponding displayed user interface image.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said help information repository associated with said help message comprises at least one of: (a) a web page, (b) a journal, (c) a database, (d) a record and (e) a system, of help information and

said help information repository is accessible by users of said executable application.

8. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said creation time of said help message comprises at least one of: (a) a time associated with receipt of said help message by said interface processor in response to user data entry, (b) a time associated with incorporation of said help message in said help information repository, (c) a time associated with entry of said help message by a user, (d) a time associated with communication of said help

message to said help information repository and (e) a time associated with receipt of said help message by said help information repository.

9. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said data processor stores said help message conveying help information in said help information repository together with at least one of: (a) an indicator identifying a displayed user interface image associated with said help message, said user interface image being employed by said executable application, (b) a repository section identifier, (c) a sequence number identifying a message sequence within a repository section, (c) a help message creation time or date indicator, (d) information identifying a user creating or updating said help message, (e) a time or date indicator indicating expiration of validity of said help message.

10. A system according to claim 7, wherein

said repository section identifier identifies that said help message is to be stored in a repository section comprising at least one of: (a) a repository section accessible to all users, (b) a repository section accessible to an administrator, (c) a repository section accessible to an organization operating said executable application and (d) a repository section accessible to an organization owning said executable application.

11. A system according to claim 7, wherein

said interface processor receives said at least one indicator (a) to (e).

12. A system for providing help information supporting user operation of at least one executable application, comprising:

an interface processor for receiving:

user entered data representing a message conveying help information;

a creation time indicator identifying a creation time of said message;

an identifier for identifying a help information repository associated with said message, and

a section indicator identifying a section of said help information repository associated with said message; and

a data processor for storing said message conveying help information in said help information repository in an order of creation using said creation time indicator.

13. A system according to claim 10, wherein

said data processor stores said message conveying help information in said section identified by said section indicator.

14. A system according to claim 11, wherein

said section comprises at least one of: (a) a section accessible to all users and (b) a section accessible by particular user and concerning policies and procedures.

15. A system for providing help information supporting user operation of at least one executable application, comprising:

a command processor for:

receiving a request to access help information and including an indicator identifying a particular user interface display image employed by said at least one executable application and associated with said help information request,

retrieving help information from a repository in response to said request;  
and

a display generator for initiating display of at least one image in response to said request, said at least one image including messages conveying help information in a time order of creation and associated with said displayed user interface image employed by said executable application.

16. A system according to claim 13, wherein

said command processor receives a request to access help information supporting user operation of multiple executable applications and including an indicator identifying a particular user interface display image of a particular executable application.

17. A system according to claim 13, wherein

said time order of creation of said message comprises an order based on at least one of: (a) a time associated with receipt of said message by said interface processor in response to user data entry, (b) a time associated with incorporation of said message in said repository, (c) a time associated with entry of said message by a user, (d) a time associated with communication of said message to said repository and (e) a time associated with receipt of said message by said repository.

18. A system according to claim 13, wherein

said at least one image presents messages conveying help information in time order of creation with a most recently created message being presented first.

19. A system according to claim 13, wherein

said at least one image includes instructions guiding a user in use of functions available in said image.

20. A system for providing help information supporting user operation of at least one executable application, comprising:

a display generator for initiating display of at least one help access image in response to user selection of a help icon associated with a user interface image employed by said executable application, said help access image including an image element enabling a user to at least one of:

(a) add a message to a help information repository,

(b) access user manual information associated with said user interface image employed by said executable application and

(c) read information derived from said help information repository including messages conveying help information in a time order of creation and associated with said user interface image employed by said executable application; and

a command processor for initiating access to said help information repository in response to user activation of said image element.

21. A method for providing help information supporting user operation of at least one executable application, comprising the activities of:

receiving:

(a) user entered data representing a message conveying help information,

(b) an indicator identifying a creation time of said message,

(c) an identifier for identifying a help information repository associated with said message; and

storing said message conveying help information in said help information repository in order of creation by using said indicator.

22. A method for providing help information supporting user operation of at least one executable application, comprising the activities of:

receiving a request to access help information and including an indicator identifying a particular user interface display image employed by said executable application and associated with said request;

retrieving help information from a repository in response to said request;

and

initiating display of at least one image in response to said request, said at least one image including messages conveying help information in a time order of creation and associated with said user interface display image employed by said executable application.

23. A method for providing help information supporting user operation of at least one executable application, comprising the activities of:

initiating display of at least one help access image in response to user selection of a help icon associated with a user interface image employed by said executable application, said help access image including an image element enabling a user to at least one of:

(a) add a message to a help information repository,

(b) access user manual information associated with said user interface image employed by said executable application,

(c) read information derived from said help information repository including messages conveying help information in a time order of creation and associated with said user interface image employed by said executable application;

and

initiating access to said help information repository in response to user activation of said image element.

24. A method, comprising the activities of:

in response to a first single action, presenting a help log comprised by a user-editable help application, the help log corresponding to an operation related to a computer application;

in response to a second single action, providing a user-defined help message to a database, the user-defined help message comprising information related to the operation; and

rendering the user-defined help message according to a creation time in the help log.

25. The method according to claim 24, further comprising:

providing a confirmation of a posting of the help message.

26. The method according to claim 24, further comprising:

providing a search function.

27. The method according to claim 24, further comprising:

providing a preview of the user-defined help message.

28. A method, comprising the activities of:

via a first single action, accessing a help log comprised by a user-editable help application, the help log corresponding to an operation related to a computer application;

via a second single action, providing a user-defined help message to the user-editable help application, the user-defined help message comprising information related to the operation; and



perceiving the user-defined help message according to a creation time in the help log.

29. The method according to claim 28, wherein the help log comprises at least one of: organization information, employee information, policy information, and procedure information.
30. The method according to claim 28, wherein the user-defined help message comprises at least one of: organization information, employee information, policy information, and procedure information.